

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were pending in the Application. Claims 1-16 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Hence, claims 17-24 are pending.

Applicants cancelled claims 1-16 so as to prosecute all method claims in one patent application. Applicants are not conceding in this application that cancelled claims 1-16 are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner or are not statutory subject matter. Claims 1-16 were cancelled solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of the remaining method claims (claims 17-24). Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these (claims 1-16) and other claims in one or more continuation patent applications.

Claims 17-24 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and file a Notice of Appeal concurrently herewith. Applicants will specifically provide the reasons for traversal in Applicants' Appeal Brief. /

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD P.C.

Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

Robert A. Voigt, Jr.  
Reg. No. 47,159

P.O. Box 50784  
Dallas, TX 75201  
(512) 370-2832

Austin\_1 521035v.1